

*In the Specification:*

Please replace the paragraph that begins at p. 19, l. 4 with the following:

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The interpretation of the term "about" is dictated by the purpose of the 0.528 pressure ratio. When the upstream to downstream pressure ratio is less than 0.528, critical (laminar) flow is achieved for the gas flowing through the capillary tubing. Laminar flow is a stable flow profile having a greater flow velocity at its center than at the tubing walls. [Figure 15 shows a not-to-scale example of laminar flow as contrasted to plug (turbulent) flow. Tubing 1500 surrounds a set of velocity vectors 1510 that are greater toward the middle of the tubing 1500.] More important to the invention is a second aspect of critical flow, a constant mass flow. In other words, despite changes in temperatures of 5-10°C and changes in pressure of five psig (pounds per square inch gauge), the mass flow rate of gas to the column or columns downstream does not vary with any great significance. Even for temperature and pressure fluctuations beyond this range, the mass flow rate varies much less than it would otherwise. Thus, the use of capillary tubing regulates the mass flow provided to the detectors (such as TCD's) in the gas chromatograph and thereby increases the accuracy and reproducibility of the measurements in the gas chromatograph.